

**Town of Williamsport  
Mayor & Council Minutes  
April 13, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Williamsport Mayor and Council was held on April 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Williamsport Town Hall.

In attendance were:

Mayor James G. McCleaf II  
Council member Tearza Knode  
Council member Joan Knode  
Council member Monty Jones  
Council member Timothy Fraker  
Council member James Kalbfleisch  
Town Attorney Edward Kuczynski

Also Present – Donnie Stotelmyer, Town Clerk

Mayor James McCleaf II called the meeting to order.

Mayor James McCleaf II asked all in attendance to stand for a moment of silence for Ryan Myers, son of Delegate and Mrs. Leroy Myers of Clear Spring, Benjamin Burger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Burger Sr. of Clear Spring, and Nick Aidenhart, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. James Aidenhart of Fairplay. These young men were tragically killed in past few days and the community greives their loss. He followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilman Jones to accept the minutes of the March 9, 2009 Regular Meeting and the minutes of the March 16, 2009 special meeting and also the minutes of the April 6, 2009 Workshop, seconded by Councilman Kalbfleisch, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Reports**

Donnie Stotelmyer gave the Treasurers Report. A motion was made by Councilman Kalbfleisch, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode to accept the Treasurer's Report, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Guests**

Mayor James McCleaf II introduced Councilwoman Joan Knode who then introduced members of the Potomac Garden Club. Mayor McCleaf thank the Garden Club for the flowers they planted around Town Hall. Mayor McCleaf then presented the Garden Club with the Community Service Award from the Town of Williamsport in recognition of their valuable contributions to our community.

Mayor McCleaf II introduced Ms. South, art teacher from Williamsport Elementary. She informed the Mayor and Council that Williamsport Elementary was the first "Green School" in Washington County. Students have been involved in a student driven recycling project, placing bird feeders and houses around school property and also painting storm drains around the Town of Williamsport. Councilwoman Joan Knode had requested that students participate in Earth Day by making art projects from recycled items and Ms. South had brought in for the Mayor and Council items that students had submitted. These items will be displayed at the Earth Day event to be held on April 18, 2009 in the Town of Williamsport.

Mr. Jerry Knode of the Museum Board gave the monthly report on the Museum. The Sunrise Service that was held on April 12, 2009 at the Williamsport Museum had a very good turnout. The Museum Ramble will be held on May 2nd and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. Thirteen area museum will participate in this event. There is no cost for this event. The Town Museum USO Committee met on April 9, 2009. The band for this event, which will be held on October 10, 2009 at the Springfield Barn, will be Jump Alley from Virginia. A tribute to Otho Holland Williams will be held on June 28, 2009 at the Town of Williamsport Museum.

Town Attorney, Ed Kuczynski reported on the Williamsport American Legion. He explained to the Mayor and Council that until the American Legion and the Town agree on that area which is no longer needed for a public purpose and the American Legion takes the steps necessary to sub-divide the property the Mayor and Council cannot take any further action on this matter. He also reported that the Citizens that had opposed the Sheetz have appealed the Circuit Court decision to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. He also reported that the Williamsport Planning Commission is holding a public hearing on April 23, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall of Williamsport concerning a request from Rollin E. Byers for a variance in connection with the renovation of an apartment at the rear of 16 – 20 N. Conococheague St., Williamsport, MD.

Ms. Tonya Williams reported on the Earth Day Event scheduled for Saturday April 18, 2009 from 12noon to 5:00p.m. There will be many activities and also vendors participating.

### **Correspondence**

Donnie Stotelmyer, Town Clerk, read a letter from Ms. Jenny Sarnecki, Chairperson for the Boonsboro Green Fest. The Boonsboro Task Force would like to cordially invite everyone to the First Annual Boonsboro Green Fest to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 10a.m. to 2:00p.m. at Shafer Park in Boonsboro.

### **Reports**

Councilman Jones gave the February and March 2009 Sheriffs Report.

### **Council Reports**

Councilman Kalbfleisch reported on the past due electric bills in the Town. Notices have been sent and we are getting a fairly good response.

Councilman Jones reported that the State Hwy User Fees are being reduced by 10.8% for Fiscal Year 2010 & 2011. He further stated that he has drafted a letter to local Delegates, concerning this matter.

Councilwoman Joan Knode reported on concerns with the intersection of Route 63 & Route 11. She also reported on the MML Geo-cache program. A resolution was read by Donnie Stotelmyer, Town Clerk, that the Town of Williamsport will participate in the MML Geocache Trail Program and will work with MML and the Maryland Geocaching Society to locate an appropriate place for our municipality's geocache, will maintain the geocache and will adhere to geocaching standards and procedures. She also informed the Mayor and Council that she got a very good response to the newsletter that was put in with the monthly electric bills. She reported that they are trying to get carriages for the cannons that are being stored in the basement of the Town Hall and that the National Park Service is assisting her with this matter. She also reported that the Town of Williamsport is now a member of the Civil War Heritage Area. She also reported on the C&O Canal Pride Days scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2009, volunteers are needed. Anyone interested can meet at the Cushwa Basin at 8:00a.m. on May 2nd. A Trails Town Meeting will be on Friday,

April 24, 2009 at 9:00a.m.. The purpose of this meeting will be to address the needs of the Town of Williamsport. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to attend. Councilwoman Knode also reported that she attended a conference held at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV concerning the C&O Trails Town Program called "Balance in Nature and Commerce in Communities". She also reported on the Springfield farmhouse (tenant house) and that the project will be moving forward.

Councilman Fraker reported that a Pool Committee Meeting will be held at The Town Hall of Williamsport on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:00p.m. The pool deck is being repaired and the project is moving along as scheduled.

Councilwoman Tearza Knode – informed the Mayor & Council that she had been ill so she had not been able to accomplish all the things she had been hoping to. She reported that there had been vandalism in the Park and she felt that if something could be done to give the kids in the Town of Williamsport a place to go these occurrences of vandalism would decrease.

### **Mayors Report**

Mayor McCleaf reported that the Earth Day Event will begin Saturday, April 18, 2009. Volunteers should meet at 9:00a.m. at Pavilion 1 in the Byron Memorial Park. Many events are scheduled throughout the Town.

Mayor McCleaf reported that the MD Correctional Facility will be constructing a welcome sign for the Town of Williamsport at no cost to the Town. He also informed the Council that he and Councilman Fraker are working to design the sign.

Mayor McCleaf reported on the detour for I-70 and I-81 that will be in effect beginning April 14, 2009. He warned that traffic will be quite heavy in the Town so residents should be aware.

Mayor McCleaf reported that a preliminary budget should be ready by next month's Council Meeting.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mayor McCleaf II held discussion on Mr. Ron Hebb's proposal to teach karate/martial arts classes at the Community Building in the Byron Memorial Park. A motion was made by Councilman Fraker, seconded by Councilman Jones to allow Mr. Ron Hebb use of the Community Building three (3) days a week to teach his martial arts class, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Donnie Stotemyer, Town Clerk read a Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Amendment 2009-03

Overview: The State Highway Administration has revised their estimate of Fiscal Year 2009 Highway User Revenues. The revised figure is \$124,358.00. The amount that had been budgeted was \$134,940.00 for Highway User Income. The Budget should be reduced by \$10,582.00 to reflect this adjustment.

Detailed Summary: To adjust Highway User Fees.

A motion was made by Councilman Jones to adopt Budget Amendment 2009-03 as presented, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf introduced Ed Kuczynski, Town Attorney who introduced a Resolution for acceptance of offers of dedication for certain streets to be included in the street system of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland. An offer to dedicate certain streets commonly referred to and known as Coneflower Dr. has been made by the owner/developer to the Town of Williamsport. Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council as the duly constituted legislative body of the Town of Williamsport does hereby accept the

offer of the dedication of the described street as shown on the aforementioned legal description. And be it further that said street is and shall be a part of the Street/Highway system of the Town of Williamsport. And be it further resolved that the acceptance of this offer of dedication is conditioned upon the following conditions precedent and shall not be considered a valid acceptance until same are met. A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kalbfleisch to introduce the resolution for Coneflower Dr., with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Ed Kuczynski, Town Attorney also introduced a Resolution for acceptance of offers of dedication for certain streets to be included in the street system of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland. An offer to dedicate certain streets commonly referred to and known as Otho Holland Dr. has been made by the owner/developer to the Town of Williamsport. Now, Therefore, be it resolved that the Mayor and Council as the duly constituted legislative body of the Town of Williamsport does hereby accept the offer of the dedication of the described street as shown on the aforementioned legal description. And be it further that said street is and shall be a part of the Street/Highway system of the Town of Williamsport. And be it further resolved that the acceptance of this offer of dedication is conditioned upon the following conditions precedent and shall not be considered a valid acceptance until same are met. A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Kalbfleisch to introduce the resolution for Otho Holland Dr., with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf II held discussion on the proposed Boat Ramp Project approved by the Department of Natural Resources. Mayor McCleaf informed the Council that the DNR is requesting that this project be put out for bid. He further stated that the DNR is asking that this project be under contract so the State of Maryland could not remove any funding that has been allocated for this project. A motion was made by Councilman Jones to place the Boat Ramp Project at River Bottom Park out for bid, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Mayor McCleaf held discussion on the Maryland Municipal League Geocache Trail Program. MML created the Geocache Trail to promote awareness of and visits to Maryland's cities and towns, with the goal of helping to stimulate economic development in Maryland's Municipalities. This effort taps into the rapidly growing high-tech Tourist Trade that is not limited to any particular age group. A motion was made by Councilman Jones, Seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode to adopt the presented Geocache Trail Resolution, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf II held discussion on Promise Animal League request to use Pavilion 3 in Byron Memorial Park on May 3, 2009. The Promise Animal League will be conducting an animal rabies clinic on that date at the pavilion. A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode to allow the Promise Animal League to use Pavilion 3 in Byron Memorial Park on May 3, 2009 for their animal rabies clinic, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Mayor McCleaf II informed the Council that the Rehoboth Learning Center is requesting use of Pavilion 3 in the Byron Memorial Park on Friday, June 12, 2009 from 5:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. for a picnic with the families from the Center. No action was taken on this matter. Mr. Stotemyer will discuss with the Rehoboth Learning Center that there is currently a one free use for all Town Churches policy and that they already have a use scheduled.

Mayor McCleaf II informed the Council that the Boy Scout Troop from Havre De Grace, Maryland is requesting permission to camp at Byron Memorial Park on Tuesday, June 23, 2009. A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode to allow the Boy Scout Troop from Havre De

Grace, Maryland to camp at Byron Memorial Park on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

**Citizen Participation –**

Earle Pereschuk, resident, informed the Mayor and Council that there were some concerns about trash being mowed over in the cemetery. He asked that the employees pick up the trash so as not to create a bigger mess. He also asked that the Mayor & Council look into the timing of the new stoplights on Artizan St. as they do not appear to be synchronized. The Council held discussion on this matter.

Mr. Lafferty, town resident, questioned the Mayor & Council concerning the upcoming Washington County Sheriffs Dept contract which will renew on July 1, 2009.

Chris Grimes, resident, spoke concerning the vandalism in Byron Memorial Park, and that the towns people should be aware of it.

A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman T. Knode, to adjourn the meeting, with all voting in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Stotlemeyer  
Town Clerk  
Town of Williamsport